

## Weekly Weather Crop Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending June 27, 2004

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 1.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending June 27, 2004**. As Mississippi faces another week of heavy rainstorms, producers are becoming increasingly worried about the effect of the excess precipitation on row crops. All fields have adequate-to-surplus soil moisture, with some low-lying areas being reported as flooded. Across the state, several days of dry, sunny weather are needed so producers can get out into their fields. Soil moisture was rated 20 percent adequate and 80 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2003	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Silked	92	80	82	82	1	3	13	56	27
	Dough	29	--	33	38					
Cotton	Squaring	66	54	59	75	2	5	18	51	24
	Setting Bolls	7	--	9	17					
Rice	Heading	3	1	4	3	0	2	12	69	17
Sorghum	Heading	40	17	35	29	0	1	8	85	6
Soybeans	Emerged	100	99	97	98	0	3	11	62	24
	Blooming	68	56	48	47					
	Setting Pods	38	33	18	16					
Wheat	Mature	99	98	100	100	--	--	--	--	--
	Harvested	93	91	94	96					
Hay (Cool Season)	Harvested	99	98	100	100	8	13	18	42	19
		28	27	48	44					
(Warm Season)										
Sweetpotatoes	Planted	71	70	73	83	0	6	25	59	10
Watermelons	Harvested	22	--	34	18	0	20	34	18	28
Blueberries						0	2	7	80	11
Cattle						1	3	19	57	20
Pasture						0	8	20	51	21

### County Agent Comments

"It is hard to believe that we would want it to stop raining the last of June, but we are getting too much. Insects need to be controlled, plant growth regulators need to be applied, and herbicides need to be applied to grass and weeds."

— Don Respass, Bolivar

"When you get ten inches of rain in ten days, you can not get much done! Through last Thursday, we had over five inches and when Friday morning arrived, we had gotten over five more inches. And it is still raining!"

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

"Heavy rainfall this past week has stopped all fieldwork. Growers need to get in the fields to finish their spray applications on soybeans and cotton. Corn is progressing well. We are expecting our 2nd generation flight of southwestern corn borers anytime now."

— Charlie Stokes, Monroe

"Watermelon growers are concerned about the recent rainfall. The rain is making it difficult for growers to harvest melons. The rain is also beginning to make the melons lose their sweetness."

— Thomas Brewer, Jefferson Davis

“Livestock producers need a break in the rain to harvest forages. With so much rain, there is not enough time for the ground to dry so they can cut. With the delay in harvesting, some of the quality will be lost due to the stage of growth that the forage is in.”

— Lance Bruce, Lauderdale

“Just as fields dried enough to resume applying pesticides and planting sweetpotatoes, the rains hit again around mid-week. State sweetpotato acreage is likely going to see a 15-20% reduction thanks to the wet weather. Insect pressures have been light, but herbicide applications are behind.”

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“Rain soaked fields are keeping producers from putting out weed control treatments. Rain in some areas in the county have caused flooding conditions and the forecast calls for rain for several more days. We need sunshine.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Rain has suspended most farm operations. When possible, weed and insect control applications have been made by aircraft.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Sunflower County is saturated, with rains still in the forecast. Crops are beginning to show some signs of saturated soils and insects and weeds have gone unchecked due to the unusual wet conditions.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Rain has stopped just about all fieldwork.”

— Gary Taylor, Yazoo

“Rains beginning last week and continuing through this weekend have dramatically changed the condition of area crops. Fields are severely soaked, making all practices difficult or impossible to perform. Continued rains will begin to rapidly deteriorate the prospects for good crops.”

— Ernie Flint, Attala

“Daily rains have all fields saturated and lower areas are drowning out. No hay harvest has been possible with this weather and we are still waiting on improved conditions for the first cutting. The forecast says rain all week. Livestock are doing well with plenty of grass.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Continuous rains have caused top hay producers to give up one cutting of hay. Although it is still standing in the field, quality has diminished to a point where they will be unable to sell their hay at a premium price. Instead, they will be forced to sell at a lower price once they are able to harvest.”

— Mark Mowdy, Franklin

“Crops have benefitted from the rainfall that has been received this week. The blueberry crop is excellent with the fruit benefitting from the rainfall. The watermelon crop is excellent considering the amount of rainfall recently received. Vegetable producers stated that rainfall has made a difference in this year’s vegetable yields, with yields higher than last year.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

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Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

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# Weather Summary from June 21, 2004 to June 27, 2004 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Charleston	92	66	77	79	-2	4.90	+3.71	7	11.08				
Cleveland				80		1.98	+0.91	4	3.73				
Tunica	84	68	75	80	-5	2.32	+1.16	5	5.00				0.17
Extreme/Average	92	66	76	81	-5	3.61	+2.49	6					0.17
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	88	61	74	77	-3	3.63	+2.58	6	7.94				
Calhoun City	85	57	74	78	-4	4.92	+3.87	4	12.39				
Independence	85	62	73	78	-5	2.06	+1.01	5	4.48				
Oxford	88	65	76	78	-2	2.80	+1.79	4	6.33				
Extreme/Average	88	57	74	78	-4	3.35	+2.24	5	8.27				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	90	66	75	77	-2	4.84	+3.86	6	9.76				
Iuka	85	61	73	75	-2	3.38	+2.51	6	6.72				
Ripley	86	62	73	77	-4	3.41	+2.31	5	8.95				
Tupelo	90	67	77			4.15		5	8.66				
Verona				79		3.36	+2.35	5	7.90				0.20
Extreme/Average	90	61	75	78	-3	3.95	+2.97	6	8.52				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	90	69	76	81	-5	6.64	+5.60	5	9.93				
Rolling Fork	94	70	78	80	-2	2.53	+1.55	5	7.92	96	79	85	
Stoneville				81		5.59	+4.68	6	7.48				0.13
Yazoo City	85	69	77	81	-4	3.42	+2.51	6	8.97				
Extreme/Average	94	69	77	81	-4	4.20	+3.22	5	9.45	96	79	85	
5. Central													
Canton	91	67	77	80	-3	2.93	+2.23	6	6.85				
Carthage				79		2.54	+1.76	6	8.38				
Lexington	89	66	76	78	-2	5.26	+4.28	5	10.65				
Eupora	88	64	75	78	-3	4.47	+3.54	6	11.82				
Extreme/Average	91	64	76	79	-3	3.80	+2.89	6	8.63				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	89	65	77	78	-1	2.91	+1.94	5	9.02				0.14
Houston	87	62	75	78	-3	4.93	+3.77	6	11.23				
Louisville	90	65	76	78	-2	3.09	+2.14	7	8.36				
State University	90	66	77	79	-2	2.36	+1.42	5	8.65	84	78	80	0.16
Extreme/Average	90	62	76	79	-3	3.32	+2.31	6	9.63	84	78	80	0.14
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	93	68	77	80	-3	1.31	+0.05	6	11.54	92	80	83	
Natchez				80		1.71	+0.66	6	5.53				
Oakley	94	69	78	79	-1	1.52	+0.47	5	13.52	90	77	82	
Vicksburg	89	70	76			3.34		7	12.49				
Extreme/Average	94	68	77	80	-3	1.97	+0.92	6	12.52	92	77	82	
8. South-Central													
Collins	90	69	78	79	-1	1.62	+0.71	6	7.68				
Columbia				80		3.51	+2.33	7	7.22				
Tylertown	90	69	78	80	-2	5.64	+4.45	5	13.72				
Extreme/Average	90	69	78	80	-2	3.59	+2.51	6	10.70				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	92	68	79			5.03		6	14.43				
Hattiesburg	90	69	78	80	-2	3.77	+2.74	5	11.24				
Laurel				80		1.80	+0.85	5	9.38				
Newton				79		3.36	+2.41	5	7.48				0.15
Extreme/Average	92	68	79	80	-1	3.49	+2.50	5	11.68				0.15
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis				81		2.54	+1.36	5	4.35				
Gulfport	91	71	81	81	0	1.80	+0.57	5	8.77				
Pascagoula				80					3.47				
Poplarville	91	69	78	81	-3	3.90	+2.77	6	11.97	95	70	81	
Waveland	92	71	80	80	0	4.07	+2.78	5	11.77				
Extreme/Average	92	69	80	81	-1	3.08	+1.88	5	10.84				
State	94	57	77	80	-3	3.38	+2.35	6	10.13	96	70	82	0.16

DFN = Departure from Normal.